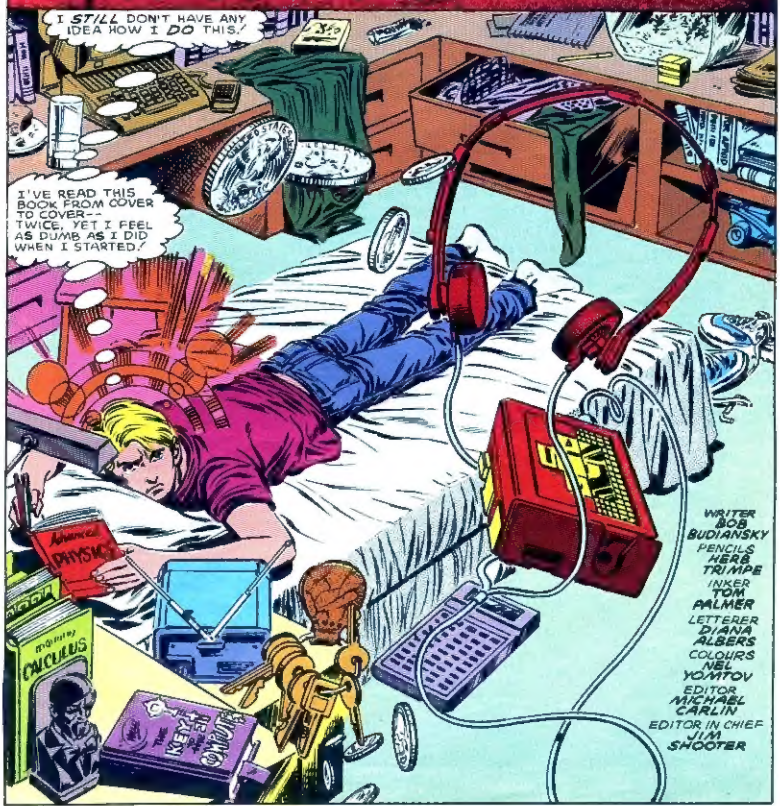
MARVEL
30th Nov.'85
No.37 30p
THE TRANSFORMERS
HEROIC AUTOBOT
In Search Of BUSTER...
And The CREATION MATRIX!
J. PIGOTT

THE TRANSFORMERS

BRAINSTORM!

BUSTER WITWICKY PRIDES HIMSELF ON BEING AMONG THE TOP-RANKED IN HIS HIGH SCHOOL -- AN "A" STUDENT IN EVERY CLASS. BUT TODAY BUSTER IS TURNING HIS ACADEMIC ATTENTIONS TO A NEW SUBJECT -- HIMSELF.

IT'S A SUBJECT HE'S DEFINITELY ON THE WAY TO FLUNKING...


I STILL DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA HOW I DO THIS.
I'VE READ THIS BOOK FROM COVER TO COVER -- TWICE, YET I FEEL AS DUMB AS I DID WHEN I STARTED.
Advanced PHYSICS
Beginning CALCULUS
KEYBOARD CONTROL

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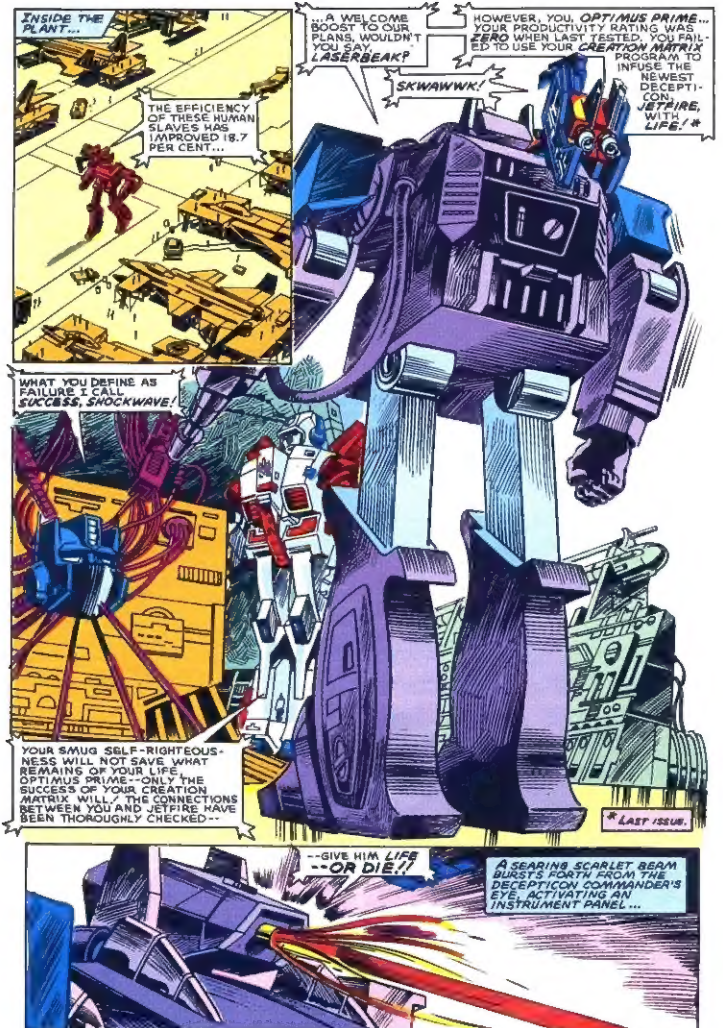
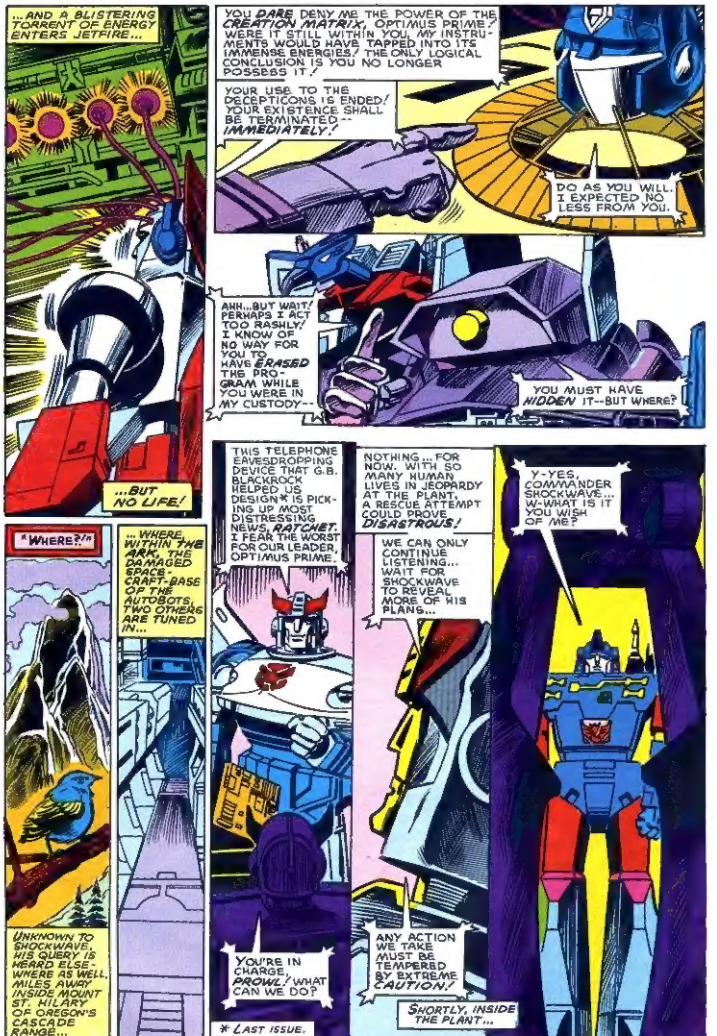
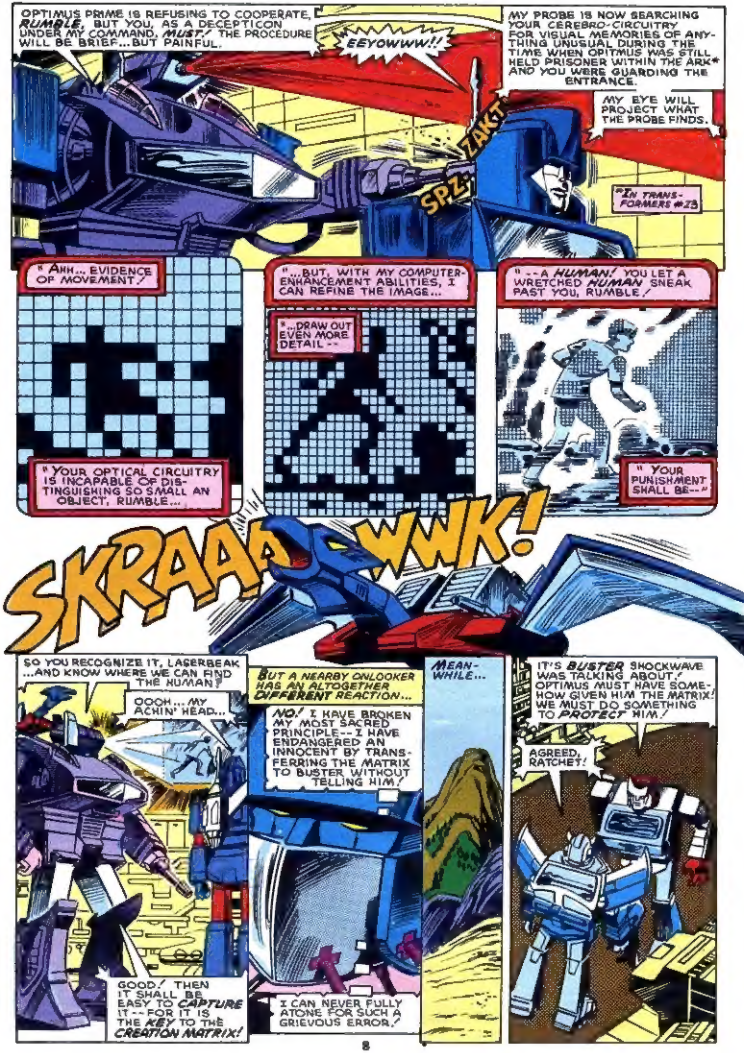
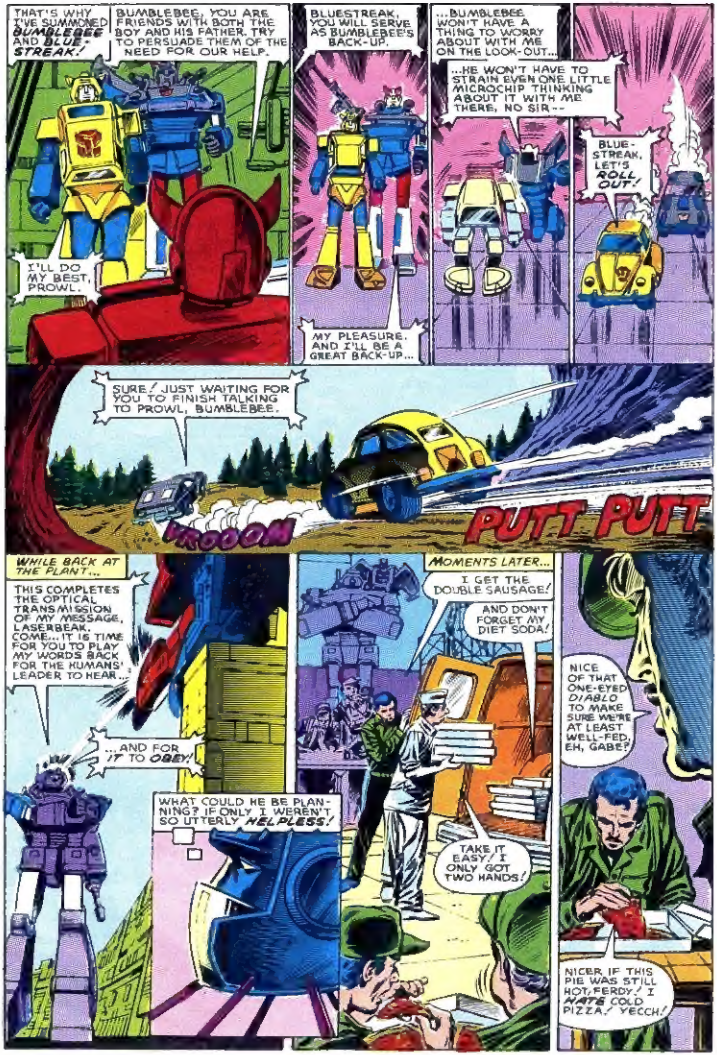
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO LEVITATE METAL OBJECTS FOR WEEKS NOW! SOMEHOW I UNDERSTAND THEM TO THE POINT OF BEING ABLE TO REBUILD AUTO ENGINES WITH ONLY A SINGLE THOUGHT!
BUT I HAVEN'T A CLUE WHY!
"EXCEPT THAT IT MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHEN I FOUND OPTIMUS PRIME HELD PRISONER BY THE DECEPTICONS. HE NEEDED MY HELP AND I TRUSTED HIM...
"...THEN HE ZAPPED ME!"*
* BACK IN TRANSFORMERS #24
AS LEADER OF THE AUTOBOTS HE MUST HAVE HAD A GOOD REASON FOR DOING IT.
JUST WISH I KNEW WHAT IT WAS!
BUSTER!
DAD!
SPLUT
KLUNK
C'MON, SON... I JUST GOT A CALL ABOUT A BREAKDOWN ON THE INTERSTATE! WHATTAYA SAY WE SHOW EVERYONE SPARKPLUG AND BUSTER WITWICKY ARE ABOUT THE BEST TOW-TRUCKERS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, OKAY?
I--I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN, DAD!
S. WITWICK
AUTO REPAI
& TOW SERVICE
GREAT! EVER SINCE I REPAIRED EVERYTHING IN HIS SHOP WITH MY NEW POWERS DAD'S CONVINCED I ENJOY WORKING ON CARS AS MUCH AS HE DOES!
HE DEPENDS ON ME NOW!
HOW AM I EVER GOING TO EXPLAIN TO HIM THESE POWERS MAKE IT EASY FOR ME... I HAVE NO INTEREST IN MAKING IT A CAREER? HE'D BE SO DISAPPOINTED IN ME...

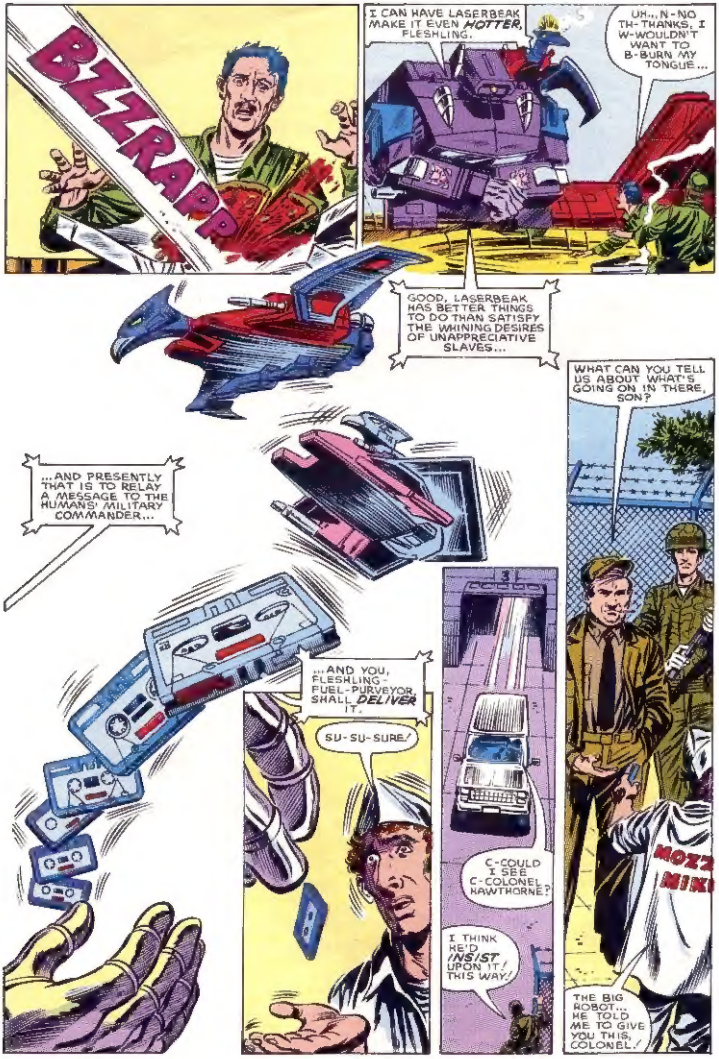
...HE'D ALSO BE HORRIFIED!
I DON'T THINK TOO MANY DADS WOULD OPEN THEIR ARMS TO...
...A METAL-MANIPULATING FREAK!
ELSEWHERE, OUTSIDE OF BLACKROCK AEROSPACE ASSEMBLY PLANT NUMBER ONE IN A SUBURB OF PORTLAND...
NO SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY INSIDE THAT I CAN SEE... NO MORE THAN USUAL, THAT IS.
SEND THE VAN THROUGH!
ALL RIGHT, GET GOING!
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? THE ARMY'S HAD US CAMPED OUT HERE FOR WEEKS WITH ENOUGH WEAPONS TO LEVEL A SMALL TOWN, AND WE CAN'T GET ONE FOOT IN THE DOOR OF THAT PLANT!
MEANWHILE, MOZZARELLA MIKE, ARMED WITH A BUNCHA SODA POP AND PIZZAS, GOES RIGHT THROUGH!
HEY, DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE MIKE'S POWER-- I'VE SEEN ONE OF HIS PEPPERONI-AND-ONION PIES WIPE OUT A WHOLE PLATOON!
FREE DELIVERY
CALL 655-2626
MOZZARELLA MIKE'S

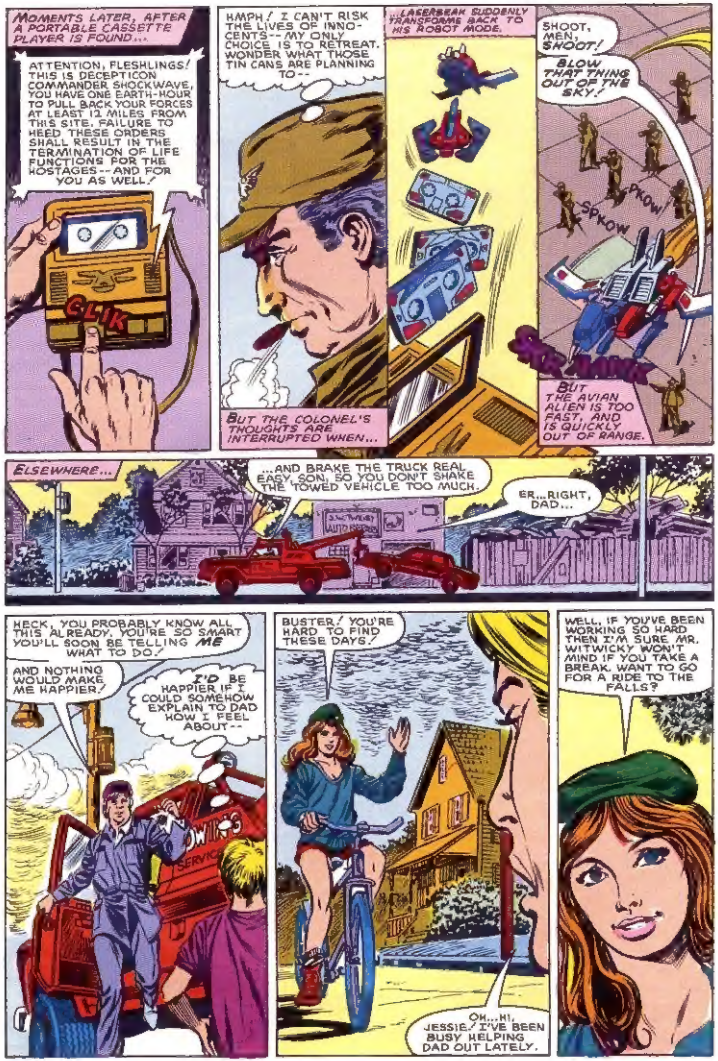

INSIDE THE PLANT...
THE EFFICIENCY OF THESE HUMAN SLAVES HAS IMPROVED 18.7 PER CENT...
...A WELCOME BOOST TO OUR PLANS, WOULDN'T YOU SAY, LASERBEAK?
SKWAWWK!
HOWEVER, YOU, OPTIMUS PRIME... YOUR PRODUCTIVITY RATING WAS ZERO WHEN LAST TESTED. YOU FAILED TO USE YOUR CREATION MATRIX PROGRAM TO INFUSE THE NEWEST DECEPTICON, JETFIRE, WITH LIFE!*
WHAT YOU DEFINE AS FAILURE I CALL SUCCESS, SHOCKWAVE!
YOUR SMUG SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL NOT SAVE WHAT REMAINS OF YOUR LIFE, OPTIMUS PRIME--ONLY THE SUCCESS OF YOUR CREATION MATRIX WILL! THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN YOU AND JETFIRE HAVE BEEN THOROUGHLY CHECKED--
* LAST ISSUE.
--GIVE HIM LIFE --OR DIE!!
A SEARING SCARLET BEAM BURSTS FORTH FROM THE DECEPTICON COMMANDER'S EYE, ACTIVATING AN INSTRUMENT PANEL...


...AND A BLISTERING TORRENT OF ENERGY ENTERS JETFIRE...
...BUT NO LIFE!
YOU DARE DENY ME THE POWER OF THE CREATION MATRIX, OPTIMUS PRIME! WERE IT STILL WITHIN YOU, MY INSTRUMENTS WOULD HAVE TAPPED INTO ITS IMMENSE ENERGIES! THE ONLY LOGICAL CONCLUSION IS YOU NO LONGER POSSESS IT!
YOUR USE TO THE DECEPTICONS IS ENDED! YOUR EXISTENCE SHALL BE TERMINATED -- IMMEDIATELY!
DO AS YOU WILL. I EXPECTED NO LESS FROM YOU.
AHH...BUT WAIT! PERHAPS I ACT TOO RASHLY! I KNOW OF NO WAY FOR YOU TO HAVE ERASED THE PROGRAM WHILE YOU WERE IN MY CUSTODY--
YOU MUST HAVE HIDDEN IT--BUT WHERE?
"WHERE?"
UNKNOWN TO SHOCKWAVE, HIS QUERY IS HEARD ELSEWHERE AS WELL. MILES AWAY INSIDE MOUNT ST. HILARY OF OREGON'S CASCADE RANGE...
...WHERE, WITHIN THE ARK, THE DAMAGED SPACECRAFT-BASE OF THE AUTOBOTS, TWO OTHERS ARE TUNED IN...
THIS TELEPHONE EAVESDROPPING DEVICE THAT G.B. BLACKROCK HELPED US DESIGN* IS PICKING UP MOST DISTRESSING NEWS, RATCHET. I FEAR THE WORST FOR OUR LEADER, OPTIMUS PRIME.
YOU'RE IN CHARGE, PROWL! WHAT CAN WE DO?
* LAST ISSUE.
NOTHING... FOR NOW. WITH SO MANY HUMAN LIVES IN JEOPARDY AT THE PLANT, A RESCUE ATTEMPT COULD PROVE DISASTROUS!
WE CAN ONLY CONTINUE LISTENING... WAIT FOR SHOCKWAVE TO REVEAL MORE OF HIS PLANS...
ANY ACTION WE TAKE MUST BE TEMPERED BY EXTREME CAUTION!
SHORTLY, INSIDE THE PLANT...
Y-YES, COMMANDER SHOCKWAVE... W-WHAT IS IT YOU WISH OF ME?

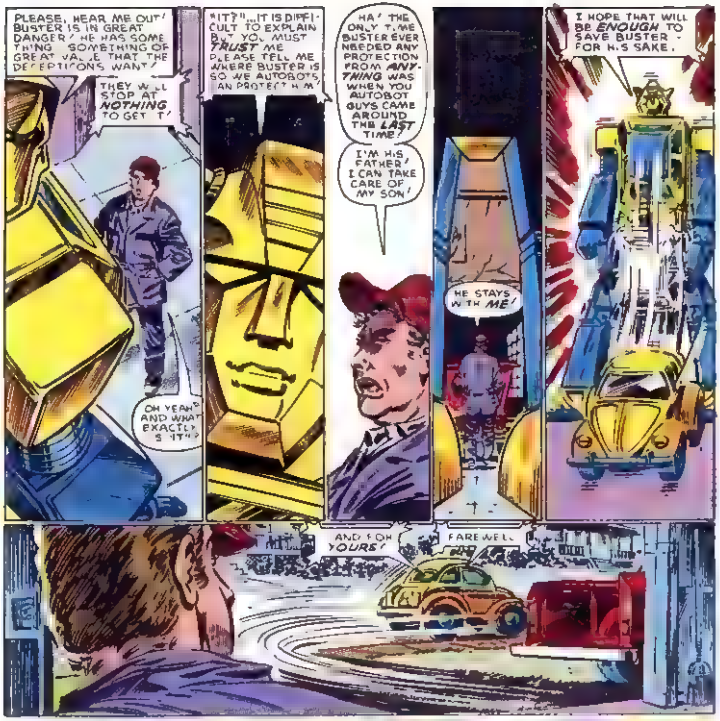

OPTIMUS PRIME IS REFUSING TO COOPERATE, RUMBLE, BUT YOU, AS A DECEPTICON UNDER MY COMMAND, MUST! THE PROCEDURE WILL BE BRIEF...BUT PAINFUL.
EEYOWWW!!
ZAKT
SPZ
MY PROBE IS NOW SEARCHING YOUR CEREBRO-CIRCUITRY FOR VISUAL MEMORIES OF ANYTHING UNUSUAL DURING THE TIME WHEN OPTIMUS WAS STILL HELD PRISONER WITHIN THE ARK* AND YOU WERE GUARDING THE ENTRANCE.
MY EYE WILL PROJECT WHAT THE PROBE FINDS.
*IN TRANSFORMERS #13
"AHH... EVIDENCE OF MOVEMENT."
"...BUT, WITH MY COMPUTER-ENHANCEMENT ABILITIES, I CAN REFINE THE IMAGE...
"...DRAW OUT EVEN MORE DETAIL--
"--A HUMAN! YOU LET A WRETCHED HUMAN SNEAK PAST YOU, RUMBLE!"
"YOUR OPTICAL CIRCUITRY IS INCAPABLE OF DISTINGUISHING SO SMALL AN OBJECT, RUMBLE...
"YOUR PUNISHMENT SHALL BE--"
SKRAAA
WWK!
SO YOU RECOGNIZE IT, LASERBEAK ...AND KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND THE HUMAN?
OOOH...MY ACHIN' HEAD...
GOOD! THEN IT SHALL BE EASY TO CAPTURE IT--FOR IT IS THE KEY TO THE CREATION MATRIX!
BUT A NEARBY ONLOOKER HAS AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT REACTION...
NO! I HAVE BROKEN MY MOST SACRED PRINCIPLE--I HAVE ENDANGERED AN INNOCENT BY TRANSFERRING THE MATRIX TO BUSTER WITHOUT TELLING HIM!
I CAN NEVER FULLY ATONE FOR SUCH A GRIEVOUS ERROR!
MEANWHILE...
IT'S BUSTER SHOCKWAVE WAS TALKING ABOUT! OPTIMUS MUST HAVE SOMEHOW GIVEN HIM THE MATRIX! WE MUST DO SOMETHING TO PROTECT HIM!
AGREED, RATCHET!


THAT'S WHY I'VE SUMMONED BUMBLEBEE AND BLUESTREAK!
BUMBLEBEE, YOU ARE FRIENDS WITH BOTH THE BOY AND HIS FATHER. TRY TO PERSUADE THEM OF THE NEED FOR OUR HELP.
I'LL DO MY BEST, PROWL.
BLUESTREAK, YOU WILL SERVE AS BUMBLEBEE'S BACK-UP.
MY PLEASURE. AND I'LL BE A GREAT BACK-UP...
...BUMBLEBEE WON'T HAVE A THING TO WORRY ABOUT WITH ME ON THE LOOK-OUT...
...HE WON'T HAVE TO STRAIN EVEN ONE LITTLE MICROCHIP THINKING ABOUT IT WITH ME THERE, NO SIR--
BLUE-STREAK, LET'S ROLL OUT!
SURE! JUST WAITING FOR YOU TO FINISH TALKING TO PROWL, BUMBLEBEE.
VROOOM
PUTT PUTT
WHILE BACK AT THE PLANT...
THIS COMPLETES THE OPTICAL TRANSMISSION OF MY MESSAGE, LASERBEAK. COME... IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO PLAY MY WORDS BACK FOR THE HUMANS' LEADER TO HEAR...
...AND FOR IT TO OBEY!
WHAT COULD HE BE PLANNING? IF ONLY I WEREN'T SO UTTERLY HELPLESS!
MOMENTS LATER...
I GET THE DOUBLE SAUSAGE!
AND DON'T FORGET MY DIET SODA!
TAKE IT EASY! I ONLY GOT TWO HANDS!
NICE OF THAT ONE-EYED DIABLO TO MAKE SURE WE'RE AT LEAST WELL-FED, EH, GABE?
NICER IF THIS PIE WAS STILL HOT, FERDY! I HATE COLD PIZZA! YECH!


BZZRAPP
I CAN HAVE LASERBEAK MAKE IT EVEN HOTTER, FLESHLING.
UH... N-NO TH-THANKS, I W-WOULDN'T WANT TO B-BURN MY TONGUE...
GOOD. LASERBEAK HAS BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN SATISFY THE WHINING DESIRES OF UNAPPRECIATIVE SLAVES...
WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE, SON?
...AND PRESENTLY THAT IS TO RELAY A MESSAGE TO THE HUMANS' MILITARY COMMANDER...
...AND YOU, FLESHLING - FUEL-PURVEYOR, SHALL DELIVER IT.
SU-SU-SURE!
C-COULD I SEE C-COLONEL HAWTHORNE?
I THINK HE'D INSIST UPON IT THIS WAY!
THE BIG ROBOT... HE TOLD ME TO GIVE YOU THIS, COLONEL!

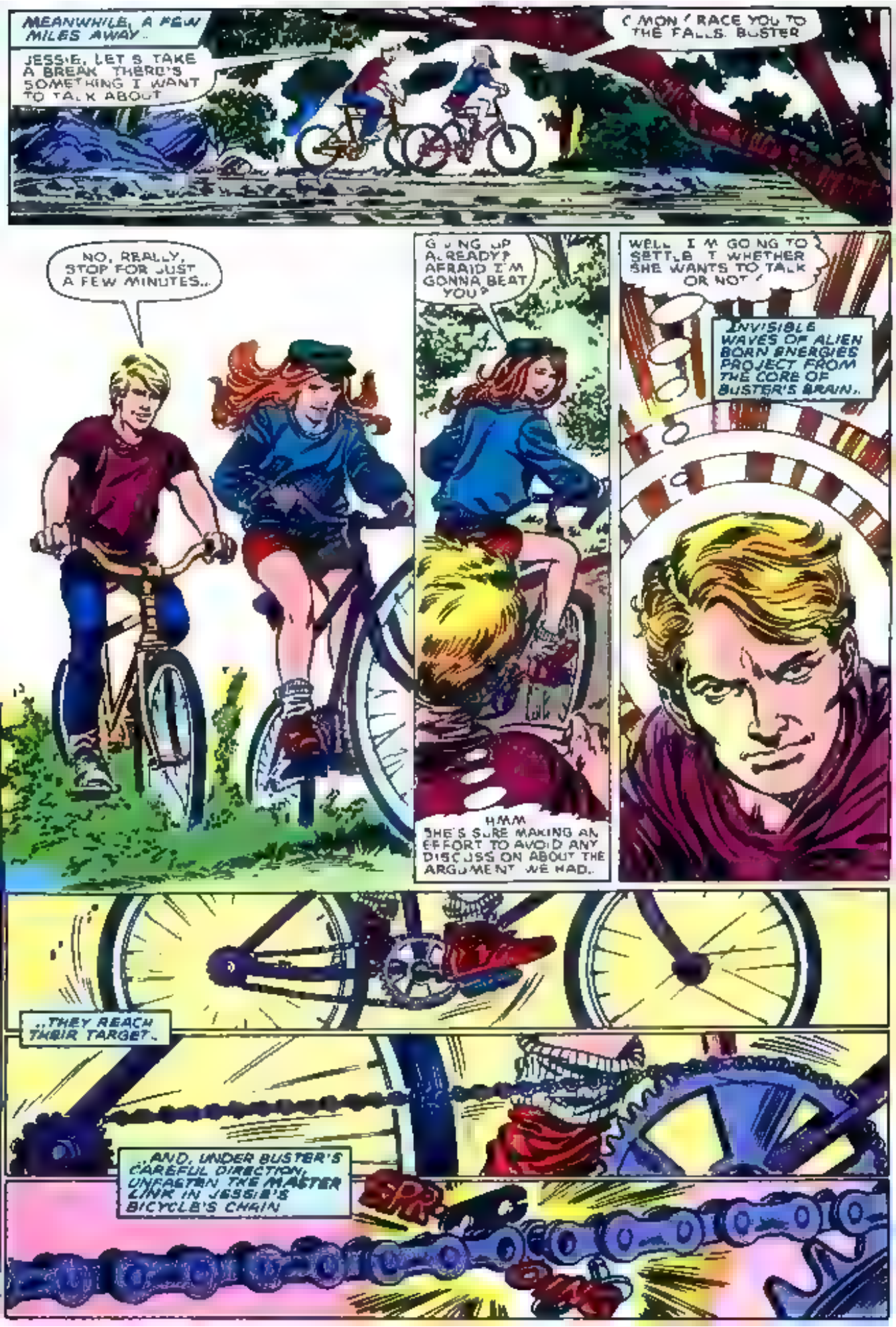

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER A PORTABLE CASSETTE PLAYER IS FOUND...
ATTENTION, FLESHLINGS! THIS IS DECEPTICON COMMANDER SHOCKWAVE. YOU HAVE ONE EARTH-HOUR TO PULL BACK YOUR FORCES AT LEAST 10 MILES FROM THIS SITE. FAILURE TO HEED THESE ORDERS SHALL RESULT IN THE TERMINATION OF LIFE FUNCTIONS FOR THE HOSTAGES--AND FOR YOU AS WELL.
CLIK
HMPH./ I CAN'T RISK THE LIVES OF INNOCENTS--MY ONLY CHOICE IS TO RETREAT. WONDER WHAT THOSE TIN CANS ARE PLANNING TO--
BUT THE COLONEL'S THOUGHTS ARE INTERRUPTED WHEN...
LASERBEAK SUDDENLY TRANSFORMS BACK TO HIS ROBOT MODE.
SHOOT, MEN, SHOOT!
BLOW THAT THING OUT OF THE SKY./
SPKOW
PKOW
SPKOW
BUT THE AVIAN ALIEN IS TOO FAST, AND IS QUICKLY OUT OF RANGE.
ELSEWHERE...
...AND BRAKE THE TRUCK REAL EASY, SON, SO YOU DON'T SHAKE THE TOWED VEHICLE TOO MUCH.
ER...RIGHT, DAD...
HECK, YOU PROBABLY KNOW ALL THIS ALREADY. YOU'RE SO SMART YOU'LL SOON BE TELLING ME WHAT TO DO./
AND NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER./
I'D BE HAPPIER IF I COULD SOMEHOW EXPLAIN TO DAD HOW I FEEL ABOUT--
SERVICE
BUSTER,/ YOU'RE HARD TO FIND THESE DAYS./
OH...HI, JESSIE./ I'VE BEEN BUSY HELPING DAD OUT LATELY.
WELL, IF YOU'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD THEN I'M SURE MR. WITWICKY WON'T MIND IF YOU TAKE A BREAK. WANT TO GO FOR A RIDE TO THE FALLS?

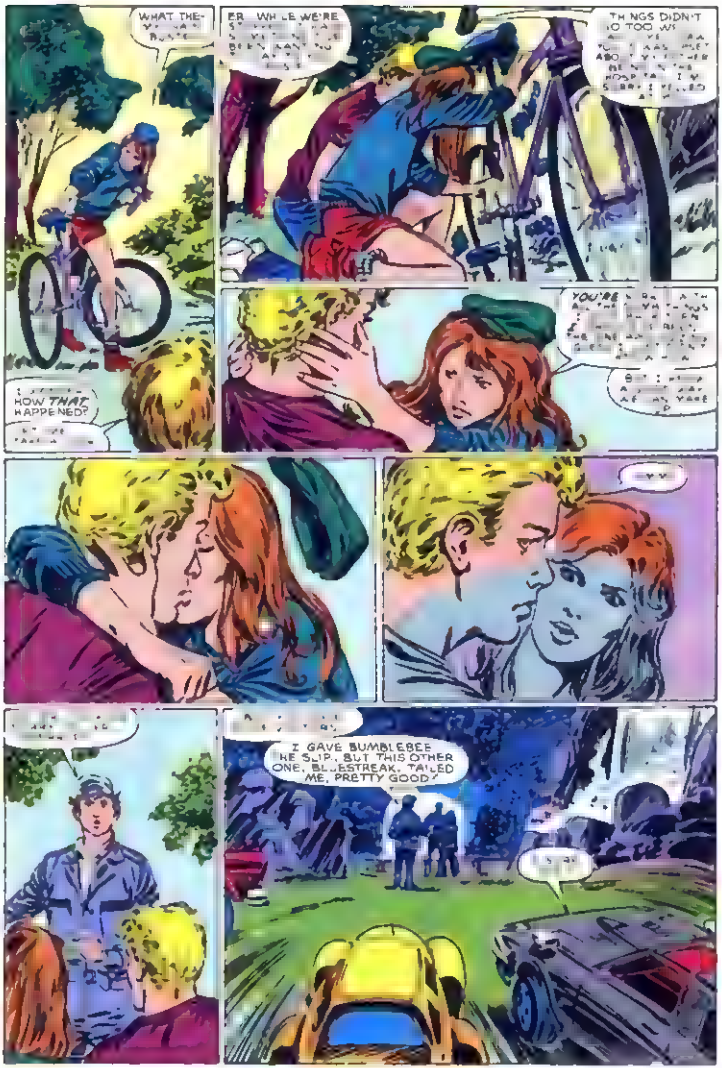
GOOD IDEA, YOU KIDS GO AHEAD, I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS TOW BUSTER GO GET YOUR BIKE
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE JESSIE-- LAST TIME SHE CAME HERE I YELLED AT HER / SHE HASN'T EVEN BEEN TALKING TO ME IN SCHOOL
MAYBE I CAN FIND OUT WHAT BROUGHT HER BACK
SEE YOU LATER, DAD
BE BACK BY DINNER-TIME, OKAY?
SOON
HMMM...LOOKS LIKE A BURNED-OUT BALLAST RESISTER
MR SPARKPLUG WITWICKY--?
TERP
IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, FRIEND. I HOPE ALL HAS BEEN WELL WITH YOUR INTERNAL MECHANISMS.
BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT, MIS
BUMBLEBEE... FORGET ABOUT MY INTERNALS--WHAT DO YOU WANT?/ I TOLD BUSTER WE WEREN'T GOING TO HAVE ANY MORE DEALINGS WITH YOU ROBOTS.

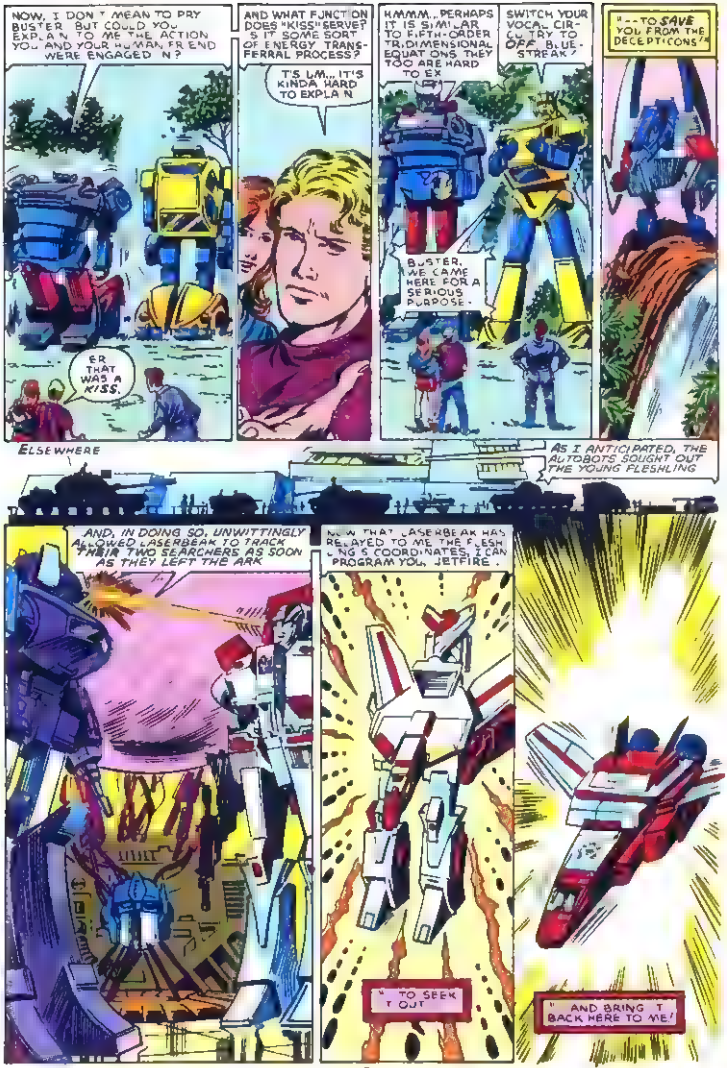

PLEASE, HEAR ME OUT! BUSTER IS IN GREAT DANGER! HE HAS SOMETHING SOMETHING OF GREAT VALUE THAT THE DECEPTICONS WANT!
THEY WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET IT!
OH YEAH? AND WHAT EXACTLY IS IT?
"IT?"...IT IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN BUT YOU MUST TRUST ME. PLEASE TELL ME WHERE BUSTER IS SO WE AUTOBOTS CAN PROTECT HIM.
HA! THE ONLY TIME BUSTER EVER NEEDED ANY PROTECTION FROM ANYTHING WAS WHEN YOU AUTOBOT GUYS CAME AROUND THE LAST TIME!
I'M HIS FATHER! I CAN TAKE CARE OF MY SON!
HE STAYS WITH ME!
I HOPE THAT WILL BE ENOUGH TO SAVE BUSTER - FOR HIS SAKE.
AND FOR YOURS!
FAREWELL.
HMPH! I DON'T TRUST THOSE GIANT JUNKHEADS! I'D BEST GO GET BETTER
SO THE AUTOBOTS DON'T GET HIM FIRST!

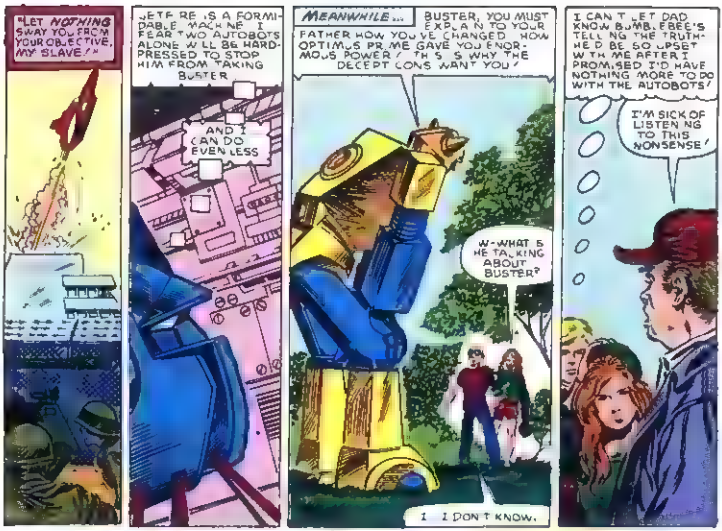
NEXT: JETFIRE'S IN THE SKY!

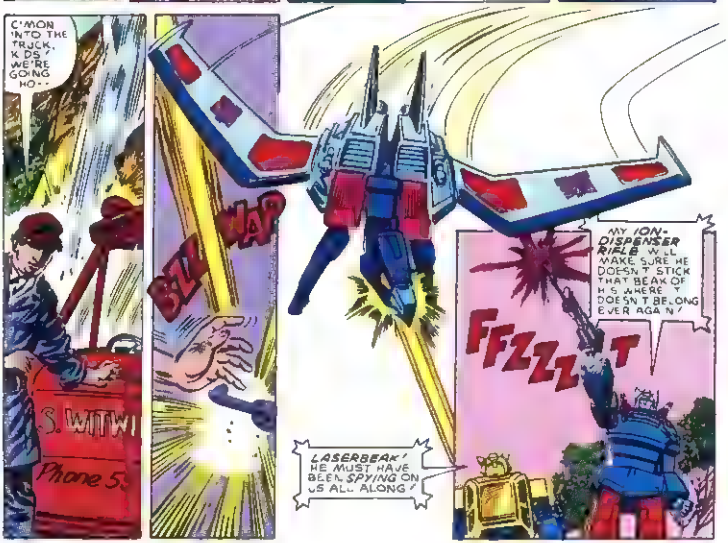
MARVEL
No38
THE TRANSFORMERS
HEROIC AUTOBOT
INTRODUCING
JETFIRE!
FAST - FURIOUS - AND FATAL?

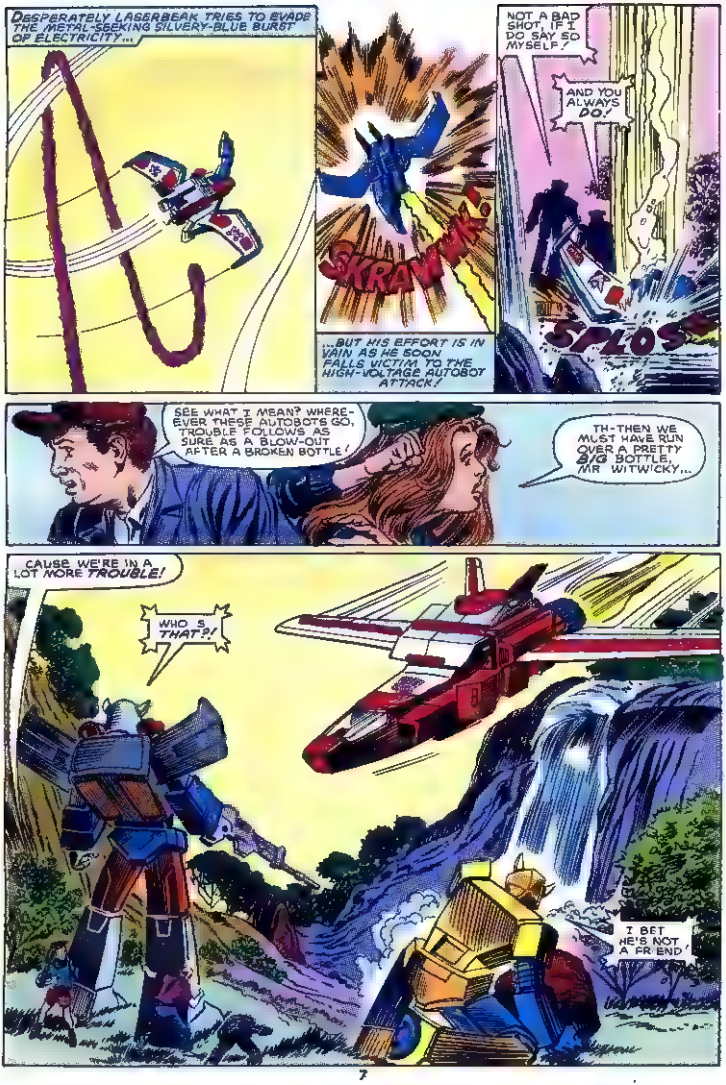

MEANWHILE, A FEW MILES AWAY..
JESSIE, LET'S TAKE A BREAK. THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK ABOUT
C'MON! RACE YOU TO THE FALLS, BUSTER
NO, REALLY, STOP FOR JUST A FEW MINUTES..
GOING UP ALREADY? AFRAID I'M GONNA BEAT YOU?
HMM SHE'S SURE MAKING AN EFFORT TO AVOID ANY DISCUSSION ABOUT THE ARGUMENT WE HAD..
WELL, I'M GOING TO SETTLE IT WHETHER SHE WANTS TO TALK OR NOT!
INVISIBLE WAVES OF ALIEN BORN ENERGIES PROJECT FROM THE CORE OF BUSTER'S BRAIN..
..THEY REACH THEIR TARGET..
..AND, UNDER BUSTER'S CAREFUL DIRECTION, UNFASTEN THE MASTER LINK IN JESSIE'S BICYCLE'S CHAIN
SRR-
CLK

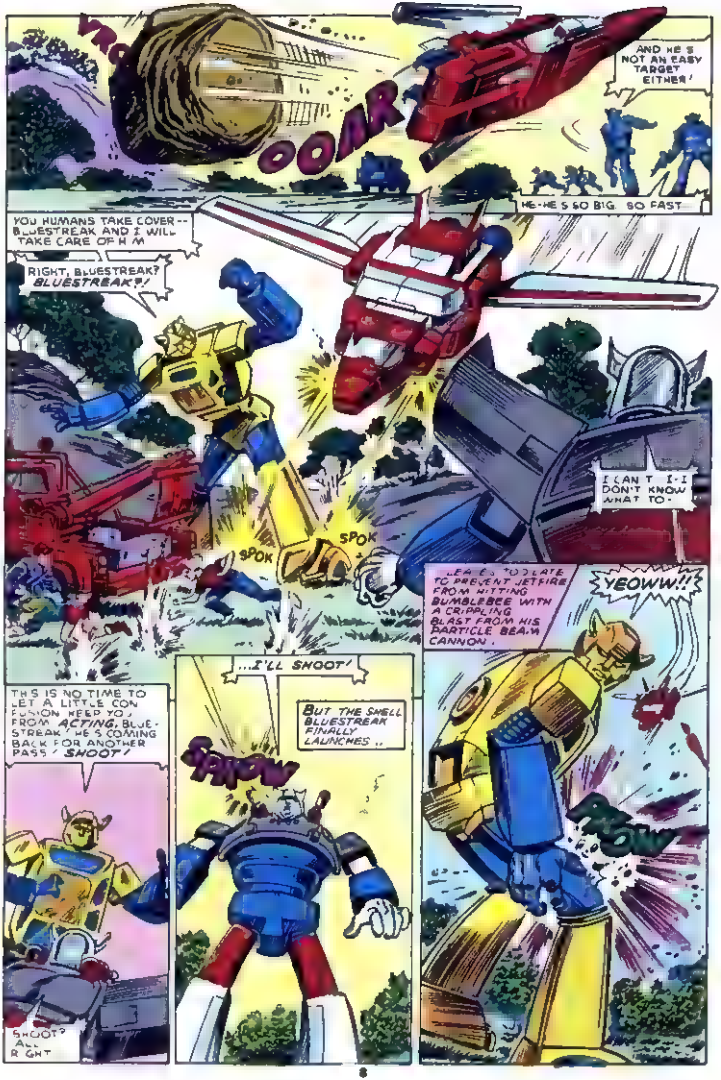

WHAT THE-
ER... WHILE WE'RE
THINGS DIDN'T GO TOO WE
HOW THAT HAPPENED?
YOU'RE
I GAVE BUMBLEBEE THE SLIP, BUT THIS OTHER ONE, BLUESTREAK, TAILED ME, PRETTY GOOD!

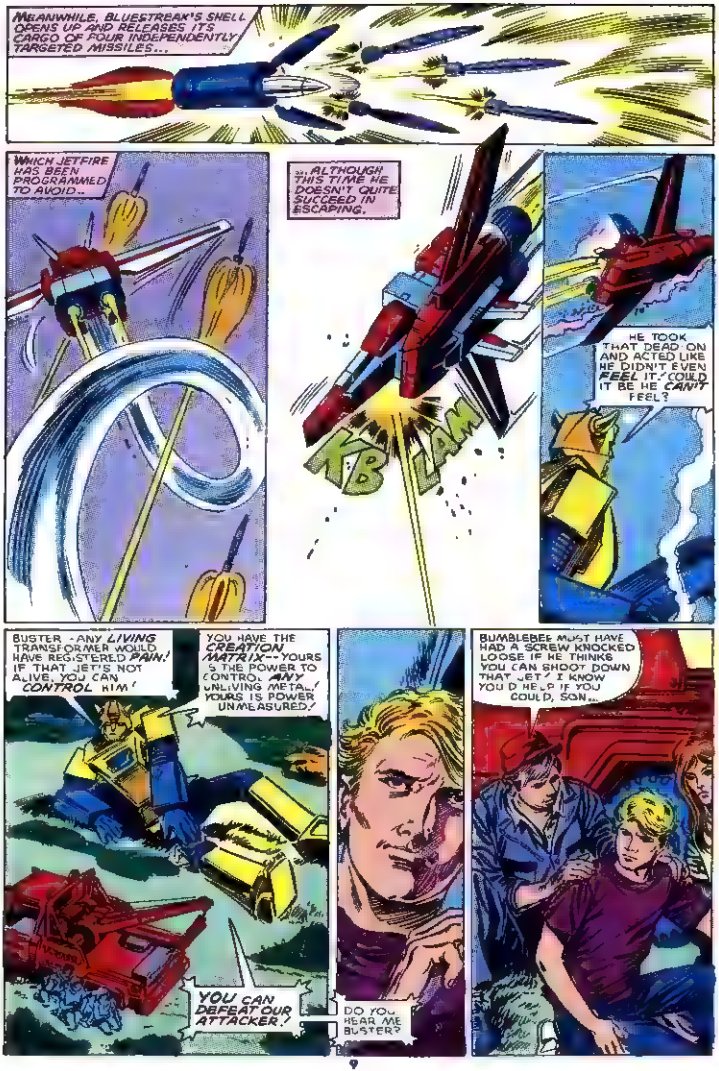

NOW, I DON'T MEAN TO PRY BUSTER BUT COULD YOU EXPLAIN TO ME THE ACTION YOU AND YOUR HUMAN FRIEND WERE ENGAGED IN?
ER THAT WAS A KISS.
AND WHAT FUNCTION DOES "KISS" SERVE? IS IT SOME SORT OF ENERGY TRANSFERRAL PROCESS?
IT'S UM... IT'S KINDA HARD TO EXPLAIN
HMMM.. PERHAPS IT IS SIMILAR TO FIFTH-ORDER TRIDIMENSIONAL EQUATIONS THEY TOO ARE HARD TO EX
SWITCH YOUR VOCAL CIRCUITRY TO OFF BLUESTREAK
BUSTER, WE CAME HERE FOR A SERIOUS PURPOSE.
"--TO SAVE YOU FROM THE DECEPTICONS!"
ELSEWHERE
AS I ANTICIPATED, THE AUTOBOTS SOUGHT OUT THE YOUNG FLESHLING
AND, IN DOING SO, UNWITTINGLY ALLOWED LASERBEAK TO TRACK THEIR TWO SEARCHERS AS SOON AS THEY LEFT THE ARK
NOW THAT LASERBEAK HAS RELAYED TO ME THE FLESHLING'S COORDINATES, I CAN PROGRAM YOU, JETFIRE.
" TO SEEK T OUT
" AND BRING T BACK HERE TO ME!


"LET NOTHING SWAY YOU FROM YOUR OBJECTIVE, MY SLAVE!"
THERE IS A FORMIDABLE MACHINE I FEAR TWO AUTOBOTS ALONE WILL BE HARDPRESSED TO STOP HIM FROM TAKING BUSTER
AND I CAN DO EVEN LESS
MEANWHILE...
BUSTER, YOU MUST EXPLAIN TO YOUR FATHER HOW YOU'VE CHANGED... HOW OPTIMUS PRIME GAVE YOU ENORMOUS POWER! THIS IS WHY THE DECEPTICONS WANT YOU!
W-WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT BUSTER?
I... I DON'T KNOW.
I CAN'T LET DAD KNOW BUMBLEBEE'S TELLING THE TRUTH... HE'D BE SO UPSET WITH ME AFTER I PROMISED I'D HAVE NOTHING MORE TO DO WITH THE AUTOBOTS!
I'M SICK OF LISTENING TO THIS NONSENSE!

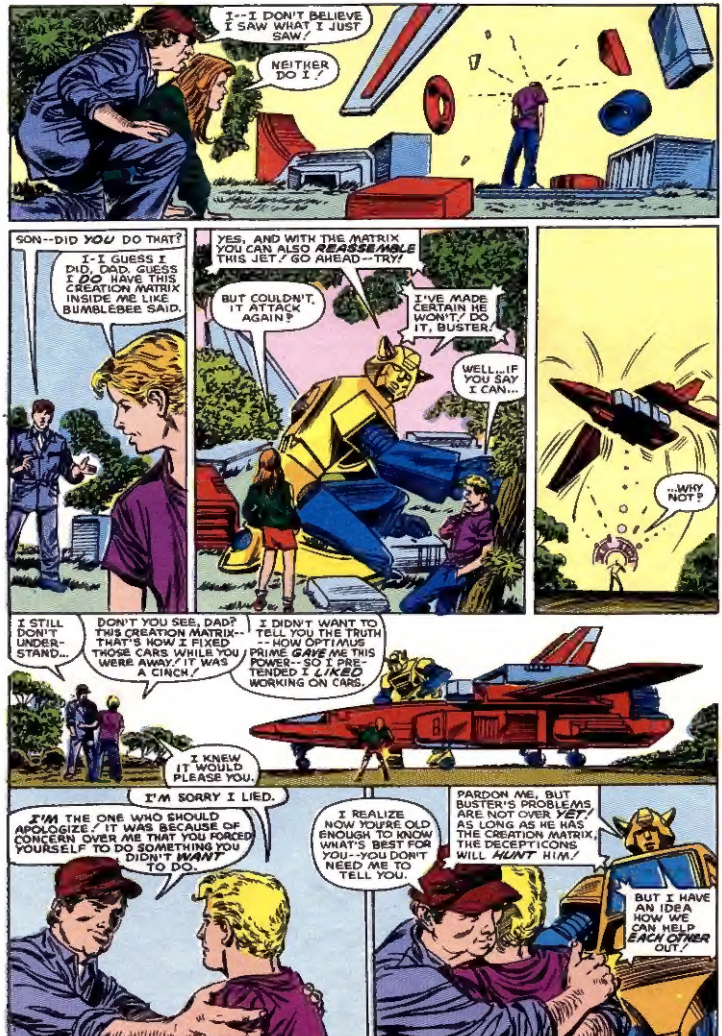

C'MON INTO THE TRUCK, KIDS! WE'RE GOING HO--
S. WITWI
Phone Si
BZ'
WAP
MY ION-DISPENSER RIFLE WILL MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T STICK THAT BEAK OF HIS WHERE IT DOESN'T BELONG EVER AGAIN!
FFZZZT
LASERBEAK! HE MUST HAVE BEEN SPYING ON US ALL ALONG!

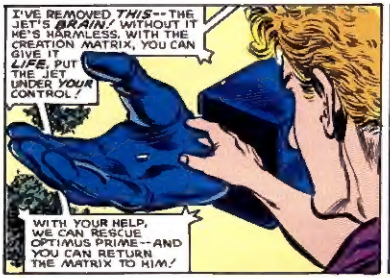

DESPERATELY LASERBEAK TRIES TO EVADE THE METAL-SEEKING SILVERY-BLUE BURST OF ELECTRICITY...
SKRAWWK!
...BUT HIS EFFORT IS IN VAIN AS HE SOON FALLS VICTIM TO THE HIGH-VOLTAGE AUTOBOT ATTACK!
NOT A BAD SHOT, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
AND YOU ALWAYS DO!
SPLOS
SEE WHAT I MEAN? WHEREEVER THESE AUTOBOTS GO, TROUBLE FOLLOWS AS SURE AS A BLOW-OUT AFTER A BROKEN BOTTLE!
TH-THEN WE MUST HAVE RUN OVER A PRETTY 2/G BOTTLE, MR WITWICKY...
CAUSE WE'RE IN A LOT MORE TROUBLE!
WHO'S THAT?!
I BET HE'S NOT A FRIEND!

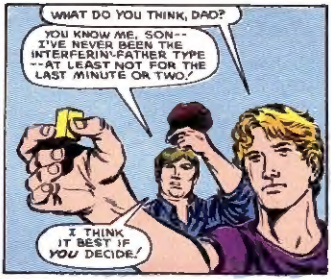

YRO
OOAR
AND HE'S NOT AN EASY TARGET EITHER!
HE-HE'S SO BIG SO FAST
YOU HUMANS TAKE COVER-- BLUESTREAK AND I WILL TAKE CARE OF H'M
RIGHT, BLUESTREAK? BLUESTREAK?!
SPOK
SPOK
I CAN'T I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO-
...LEAVES TOO LATE TO PREVENT HOTFIRE FROM HITTING BUMBLEBEE WITH A CRIPPLING BLAST FROM HIS PARTICLE BEAM CANNON.
YEOWW!!
...I'LL SHOOT!
BUT THE SHELL BLUESTREAK FINALLY LAUNCHES..
SPATOW
PKOW
THIS IS NO TIME TO LET A LITTLE CON FUSION KEEP YOU FROM ACTING, BLUE-STREAK! HE'S COMING BACK FOR ANOTHER PASS! SHOOT!
SHOOT? ALL RIGHT

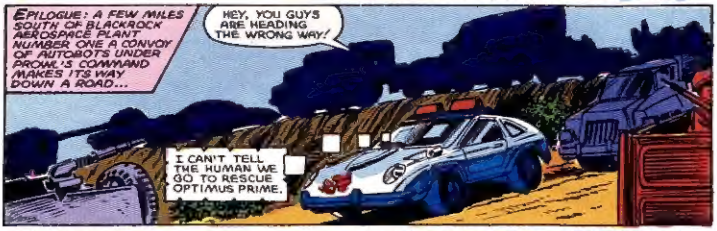

MEANWHILE, BLUESTREAK'S SHELL OPENS UP AND RELEASES ITS CARGO OF FOUR INDEPENDENTLY TARGETED MISSILES...
WHICH JETFIRE HAS BEEN PROGRAMMED TO AVOID..
...ALTHOUGH THIS TIME HE DOESN'T QUITE SUCCEED IN ESCAPING.
KB LAM
HE TOOK THAT DEAD ON AND ACTED LIKE HE DIDN'T EVEN FEEL IT. COULD IT BE HE CAN'T FEEL?
BUSTER - ANY LIVING TRANSFORMER WOULD HAVE REGISTERED PAIN! IF THAT JET'S NOT ALIVE, YOU CAN CONTROL HIM!
YOU HAVE THE CREATION MATRIX -- YOURS IS THE POWER TO CONTROL ANY UNLIVING METAL. YOURS IS POWER UNMEASURED.
YOU CAN DEFEAT OUR ATTACKER!
DO YOU HEAR ME BUSTER?
BUMBLEBEE MUST HAVE HAD A SCREW KNOCKED LOOSE IF HE THINKS YOU CAN SHOOT DOWN THAT JET. I KNOW YOU'D HELP IF YOU COULD, SON...

...YOU ALWAYS DO WHAT'S RIGHT.
YOU MEAN, THAT, DAD?
HECK, YES. YOU'RE A SMART BOY. YOU DON'T NEED AN OLD GREASE-MONKEY LIKE ME TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO.
OHH!
SPKAK
HE'S KNOCKED OUT BLUESTREAK-- HE'S COMING FOR US.
BUSTER, DON'T LET HIM TAKE YOU. STOP HIM.
YOU HAVE THE POWER. USE IT.
IT'S ALL TRUE, DAD... EVERYTHING HE SAID ABOUT ME.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, SON? GET DOWN.
I DO HAVE THE POWER.

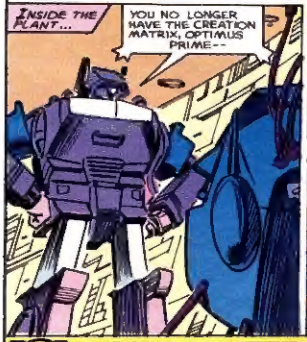

I--I DON'T BELIEVE I SAW WHAT I JUST SAW./
NEITHER DO I./
SON--DID YOU DO THAT?
I-I GUESS I DID, DAD. GUESS I DO HAVE THIS CREATION MATRIX INSIDE ME LIKE BUMBLEBEE SAID.
YES, AND WITH THE MATRIX YOU CAN ALSO REASSEMBLE THIS JET./ GO AHEAD--TRY!
BUT COULDN'T IT ATTACK AGAIN?
I'VE MADE CERTAIN HE WON'T./ DO IT, BUSTER./
WELL...IF YOU SAY I CAN...
...WHY NOT?
I STILL DON'T UNDER-STAND...
DON'T YOU SEE, DAD? THIS CREATION MATRIX--THAT'S HOW I FIXED THOSE CARS WHILE YOU WERE AWAY./ IT WAS A CINCH./
I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH--HOW OPTIMUS PRIME GAVE ME THIS POWER--SO I PRE-TENDED I LIKED WORKING ON CARS.
I KNEW IT WOULD PLEASE YOU.
I'M SORRY I LIED.
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE./ IT WAS BECAUSE OF CONCERN OVER ME THAT YOU FORCED YOURSELF TO DO SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO.
I REALIZE NOW YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU--YOU DON'T NEED ME TO TELL YOU.
PARDON ME, BUT BUSTER'S PROBLEMS ARE NOT OVER YET./ AS LONG AS HE HAS THE CREATION MATRIX, THE DECEPTICONS WILL HUNT HIM./
BUT I HAVE AN IDEA HOW WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER OUT./

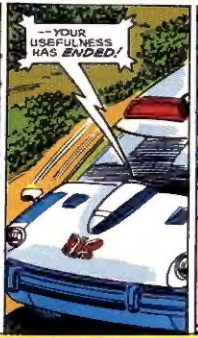

I'VE REMOVED THIS--THE JET'S BRAIN! WITHOUT IT HE'S HARMLESS. WITH THE CREATION MATRIX, YOU CAN GIVE IT LIFE, PUT THE JET UNDER YOUR CONTROL!
WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN RESCUE OPTIMUS PRIME--AND YOU CAN RETURN THE MATRIX TO HIM!

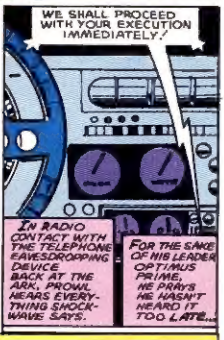

WHAT DO YOU THINK, DAD?
YOU KNOW ME, SON--I'VE NEVER BEEN THE INTERFERIN'-FATHER TYPE--AT LEAST NOT FOR THE LAST MINUTE OR TWO!
I THINK IT BEST IF YOU DECIDE!


EPILOGUE: A FEW MILES SOUTH OF BLACKROCK AEROSPACE PLANT NUMBER ONE A CONVOY OF AUTOBOTS UNDER PROWL'S COMMAND MAKES ITS WAY DOWN A ROAD...
HEY, YOU GUYS ARE HEADING THE WRONG WAY!
I CAN'T TELL THE HUMAN WE GO TO RESCUE, OPTIMUS PRIME.

WAS SOMEONE DRIVING THAT JEEP LEADING THEM? I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE
YEAH, RIGHT! MAYBE HE GOT SMART AND TURNED INVISIBLE TO AVOID COURT MARTIAL FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS! GET YOUR EYES CHECKED, MURRAY!


INSIDE THE PLANT...
YOU NO LONGER HAVE THE CREATION MATRIX, OPTIMUS PRIME--


--YOUR USEFULNESS HAS ENDED!


WE SHALL PROCEED WITH YOUR EXECUTION IMMEDIATELY!
IN RADIO CONTACT WITH THE TELEPHONE EAVESDROPPING DEVICE BACK AT THE ARK, PROWL HEARS EVERYTHING SHOCKWAVE SAYS.
FOR THE SAKE OF HIS LEADER OPTIMUS PRIME, HE PRAYS HE WASN'T HEARD IT TOO LATE...

NEXT: PRIME TIME!